

The Importance of Basic Rigging/Chaining Inspection!

Rigging, tie down chains, shackles, wire rope clips and lever/chain binders have many purposes:

Rigging: *Lifting, Tying Down Equipment & Dragging Equipment*

To keep rigging both effective and **SAFE**, inspect for the following prior to use:

- **Parts Wear and Deformation**
 - Closely check hooks, shackle pins and other critical parts
 - Look for wear that has caused 10% or more reduction in any one part's dimensions
 - Remove from service if there are any visible signs of potential part failure
- **Legible Identification of Equipment and Rating**
- **Cracks**
- **Unauthorized Field Modifications**

Chaining: *Restrain Heavy Loads, Primary Choice for Large Freight, Dragging Heavy Equipment*

To keep chaining both effective and **SAFE**, inspect for the following prior to use:

- **Stretched, bent, twisted or broken links**
- **Excessive wear (greater than 10%)**
- **Knotted chains**
- **Damaged end fittings**

Never field modified rigging equipment in a way that deviates from the manufacturers recommended use. If you have specific questions on rigging, rigging equipment or inspection, please notify your supervisor or the safety committee.

When Using Shackles, Wire Rope Clips, Lever Binders and Ratchet Binders ...

Shackles

- Always use matching shackles/pins
- Never use screws to replace pins
- Always use bolt-type pins to prevent “back out”
 - Especially when applying any load on the pin that could cause it to turn

Wire Rope Clips

- Always remember to saddle the live end of the rope
- Improper attachment will damage the live load-bearing line and could cause catastrophic failure
- Always use a minimum of three clips, starting with the one farthest from the eye

Lever Binders and Ratchet Binders

- Always verify lever binders and ratchet binders are properly lubricated
- Look for evidence of overloading such as bending of the handle or pivot points

